

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

15 MARCH 1963

~~TOP SECRET~~

LATE NOTES

Yemen-Saudi Arabia The Saudis have told Ambassador
Hart of a message from a Saudi official just north
of the border with Yemen reporting that "enemy forces"
had crossed the border and burned one village.

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1. Cuba--Shipping

a. The Soviet passenger ship Maria Ulyanova, which arrived Monday evening, sailed yesterday morning.

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2. Cannaregio

a. The Italian freighter entered the Orinoco River yesterday and has been boarded by a party from the Venezuelan destroyer General Flores. [REDACTED]

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b. Further clarification of the seemingly suspicious behavior of the Cannaregio Tuesday indicates it reflected a navigation problem caused by fog. The barges reported alongside were there for bunkering.

3. Common Market-
US

a. EEC officials are saying that US insistence on interim guarantees of continued access to EEC markets for American agricultural exports could result in the indefinite postponement of trade and tariff negotiations under the Trade Expansion Act. They argue that US inflexibility on this point may lead other countries to assert preconditions or may be used by "certain" groups in the EEC as an excuse not to proceed with the negotiations.

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4. France-Algeria

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5. Somali Republic

a. The Prime Minister, reluctant to lose British aid, evidently would like to delay announcing the formal break with the UK approved yesterday by Parliament. However, he would be risking political suicide unless there were further British concessions affecting the status of the bordering district of Kenya.

(Cont'd)

b. The fever in Mogadiscio will rise even higher when it is learned that two Ethiopian battalions in the Congo are slated for recall-- to a largely Somali-inhabited area.

c. The US Embassy has reports of increasing pressure on the government to "seek arms anywhere" in order to counter British and Ethiopian power in the area.

6. USSR-Iraq

a. There has been a further cooling of relations between Baghdad and Moscow. Yesterday, the Iraqi Embassy in Moscow, was treated to the first-ever protest demonstration staged against a "non-aligned" embassy.

b. We have heard of more Iraqi statements on moves by Baghdad to reduce Soviet aid and presence.

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7. Egypt - Saudi
Arabia - Yemen

a. There seems no doubt that
Egyptian aircraft bombed Saudi ter-
ritory on Tuesday.

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(Cont'd)

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8. Congo

a. Ambassador Gullion reports some disturbing deductions: less than a quarter of the known Katangan gendarmerie, less than half of its arms, and only a small part of its vehicles have been accounted for; its radio net still functions.

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9. Syria

a. Further trouble may be brewing over the issue of relations with Egypt.

b. Nasir's clandestine radio yesterday broadcast an attack on the new Syrian regime and a call for immediate restoration of the Egyptian-Syrian union.

c. Syrian military authorities, probably fearing that pro-Nasir demonstrations might snowball, on Wednesday refused to permit the return from Cairo of five exiled Syrians who had been cabinet ministers in the union.

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10. USSR

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NOTES

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- B. USSR Khrushchev made it clear in his speech last Friday that he considered modernistic deviations from socialist realism in the arts to be the product of sick minds. Apparently he meant what he said. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Valentin Ovechkin, an established and previously favored author, was committed to a mental institution several months ago shortly after criticizing Soviet agricultural policy and warning against a new personality cult.

- C. Haiti Duvalier is using the presence of a Czech trade mission for blackmail. He has let the US embassy hear that the Czechs are offering to undertake economic development projects--while the US lets "Haitian children" go hungry.
- D. Argentina Chances for a showdown between military factions over the form of Peronist participation in the June election may be mounting--a full-scale military alert went into effect yesterday.

(Cont'd)

E. South Korea General Pak Chong-hui has used a coup plot exposed a week ago as a pretext for arresting other military leaders opposed to him and shows signs that he may renege on his promise to transfer the government to civilian control. In what appears to be a staged maneuver, the entire cabinet offered its resignation today after shouldering "moral responsibility" for the plot.

F. Kuwait [REDACTED]

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Baath planning for coups all over the Middle East:

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[REDACTED] 50X1